

ATTACHMENT B

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) A method for glass (G) bending and tempering of a glass sheet, comprising the steps of: in which

heating the glass sheet is first heated in an oven in to a bending temperature and it is moving moved the glass sheet over known transfer means, like with rotating rollers which support the glass sheet from below at a horizontal height level; (R) and

after the glass sheet has reached the bending temperature, transferring the glass sheet at the horizontal height level with the rotating rollers it is transferred in to into a bending section and, in which allowing the glass sheet (G) is allowed to bend on a special bending ring in the bending section, (BR) and wherein the said transferring the glass onto the bending ring (BR) step includes the steps of takes place by

moving the glass sheet horizontally with the rotating rollers at the horizontal height level by a transfer force exerted onto it the glass sheet, characterized in that

terminating, when the glass sheet arrives into horizontally reaches the location of the bending ring (BR), the supporting of the glass sheet by the rotating rollers at the horizontal height level, from below is changed into air flow directed

supporting of the glass sheet at the horizontal height level by directing an air flow onto the a bottom surface of the glass sheet only after the termination of the support by the rotating rollers, and

maintaining the horizontal height level of and the glass sheet elevation plane is maintained being supported by the directed air flow by forming a planar glass sheet lifting elevation stop means (CP) above the glass sheet and at the location of the bending ring, (BR) and said maintaining step including the step of blowing air through the lifting-elevation stop means so that an air film is formed in-between the glass sheet and the glass sheet lifting-stopping elevation stop means, said blowing step preventing the glass sheet from elevating lifting and eliminating touching of the glass sheet with the elevation stop lifting stop means and when the

~~glass has arrived over the mould (BR), the blowing from below the glass is stopped and the glass is allowed to bend.~~

2. (currently amended) The method according to the claim ~~2-1~~ characterized in that the air blow onto the bottom surface of the glass in the supporting step is achieved through various nozzles (SU) arranged on the a same level.

3. (currently amended) The method according to the claim ~~1-2~~ characterized in that the nozzles (SU) can be lowered down one by one ~~or the whole nozzle chamber (SP) can be lowered to a~~ down position.

4. (currently amended) The method according to the claim 1 characterized in that the supporting step includes effect on to the glass (G) is achieved by forming of a chamber (BC) under the glass sheet and where the chamber has an open face towards the glass sheet, and directing the air flow towards the glass from below.

5. (currently amended) The method according to the claim 1 characterized in that the glass lifting-elevation stop means is a perforated plate or nozzle plate and air is blown through the holes, and whereby the dynamic effect of this blowing is remarkably lower than the blow directed on the bottom surface of the glass sheet.

6. (currently amended) The method according to the claim 1 characterized in that the glass sheet is moved over the mould (BP) bending ring by a transfer force achieved provided by the rotating rollers (R).

7. (currently amended) The method according to the claim 1 characterized in that the glass sheet is transferred over the mould (BR) bending ring by a wheel (CR) located in the area of the mould bending ring and under the glass sheet.

8. (currently amended) The method according to the claim 1 characterized in that for transferring the glass sheet by the rotating rollers (R), air jets are directed on the onto the top surface of the glass sheet so that ~~they press~~ the glass sheet is pressed down substantially on the location of the rotating rollers (R) in order to improve the transfer effect.

9. (currently amended) The method according to the claim 1 characterized in that the entrance and stopping of the glass sheet over the ~~mould~~ bending ring is assisted by mechanical stoppers (Sp), (Ss), and out of ~~their~~ contact surfaces of the stoppers air is blown out against ~~the~~ an edge of the glass sheet.

10. (currently amended) A ~~The equipment for glass sheet~~ (G) bending and bending and tempering oven ~~includes comprising:~~

a glass sheet heating section for glass-heating up the glass sheet to a bending temperature;
a bending section; and

a glass transfer mechanism including means, like rotating rollers (R) over which the glass sheet is at the bending temperature is transferred at a horizontal height level into the bending section;

a in which bending ring mould (BR) is located in the bending section and on which the glass sheet is allowed to bend before tempering; ~~characterized in that~~

an air blowing system for transferring the glass sheet onto the bending ring mould (BR), the equipment includes air blowing system

being located under the glass sheet and at the location of the bending ring (BR), air blowing system and

supporting the glass sheet at the horizontal height level only after termination of the support by which the rotating rollers at the horizontal height level (R), which support the glass, are substituted and for maintaining the elevation plane horizontal height level of the glass sheet during the transfer; ~~the equipment includes~~

a planar glass lifting sheet elevation stop means (CP) located above the glass sheet and at the location of the bending ring (BR), wherein said stop which includes an air blowing arrangement (Bep) and with a perforated plate or a set of nozzles arranged in planar form so that an air film is

formed between the glass (G) sheet and glass lifting stop ~~means~~ to help maintain the glass sheet at the horizontal height level.

11. (new) The method according to the claim 2 characterized in that the nozzles are arranged in a nozzle chamber which can be lowered to a down position.